

# STUDENT LIFE

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## Nelson beats Towery; slate looks forward to next year

BY BEN SALES  
NEWS EDITOR

Jeff Nelson of the YOU for WU slate defeated independent candidate Colin Towery for vice president of administration in the Student Union elections this week.

Nelson and the rest of the



COURTESY OF BRITTANY PEREZ

(From left to right) Elected: VP of Administration Jeff Nelson, VP of Public Relations Neha Tibrewala, VP of Finance Yewande Alimi, President Brittany Perez and VP of Programming Grant Barbosa comprise the newly-elected YOU for WU slate.

YOU for WU candidates—who ran unopposed—will be inaugurated next month.

Brittany Perez, the current Student Union (SU) vice president, who will be next year's president, says that her slate is in touch with the needs of the student body and is excited to set its goals in motion next

year.

"People feel comfortable asking us questions and giving us suggestions that we take seriously," said Perez, a junior. "We hope to continue doing that next year."

Filling out next year's executive board are vice president of finance-elect Yewande Alimi, vice president of programming-elect Grant Barbosa and vice president of public relations-elect Neha Tibrewala.

This was the first SU election under the body's new constitution, which mandates a retooled five-person executive board to replace the current four-person structure. The vice presidents of administration, programming and public relations positions are the new offices in the next year's executive.

Perez says that the expanded board will bolster SU's creativity.

"Working with a team of five is the best group to be able to work in," she said. "It brings another person in and makes us more accountable."

In addition to the new board,

the elected slate wants to create an SU cabinet to help implement the initiatives supported by the Senate and Treasury.

"We have this cabinet structure to get people more involved in initiatives that SU is taking on," said Perez. "It's a more productive way to have Student Union accomplish its goals."

The board plans to create committees on technology, fitness, dining and sustainability. Nelson hopes that these bodies will not detract from the work of SU's legislative branch.

"We hope they won't take away anything, that Senate and Treasury will be able to focus on their goals," he said. "Anyone in the student body can be involved in these initiatives."

The winning slate campaigned on three issues: improved technology for the campus, better dining services and increased school spirit.

The new technology initiative, led by Nelson, will involve a central e-mail system, a unified student portal so that students

See YOU SLATE, page 2

## Small-scale building to shed light on massive global problem

BY JEREMY ROGOFF  
STAFF REPORTER

will feature a variety of events, including a movie night and letter-writing campaign.

"You don't see many students care about poverty," said sophomore Sumit Agarwal, president of the campus Habitat. "So we're trying to get them out there for fun, as a way to get them interested in poverty."

So far 15 teams made up of freshman floors and other student groups have signed up to build and learn about the services that Habitat provides to the community.

"I think it's a good opportunity for all of us to learn how to be involved with Habitat after we graduate," said junior Piyanka Ghosal, the corporate fundraising chair for the campus chapter.

Ghosal, who began volunteering with Habitat on weekends in the fall, added that the event also seeks to address the stereotypes that are commonly associated with homelessness.

"A lot of people think they know how poverty works," said Ghosal, "[Students] need to see

See HABITAT, page 2

## Margaret Cho returns to campus, drawing many

BY KAT ZHAO  
STAFF REPORTER

Comedian Margaret Cho, recognized for her provocative stand-up acts, performed before a crowd of Washington University students at the 560 Building Thursday evening.

Cho was brought to campus by the Pride Alliance and the Korean Students Association (KSA) in conjunction with the Campus Programming Council (CPC), Student Union (SU) and several other student organizations.

Cho, a U.S.-born Korean-American from San Francisco, identifies herself as queer and has discussed her relationships with both men and women in past stage performances.

As a successful and high-profile racial minority in the American comedy scene and an outspoken advocate for gay rights, Cho has become a prominent figure in both the Asian-American and LGBT communities.

Junior Seonha Park, public relations co-chair for KSA, noted the importance of Cho as someone who can appeal to a larger audience at the Univer-

sity and in the United States.

"[Cho] can be inspiring to a lot of people, to Koreans and those in the American community," said Park. "She is not just a Korean comedian, but can really [reach out] to others in the population."

Michael Brown, advisor for Pride Alliance and coordinator for LGBT student involvement in the Office of Student Activities, also spoke of Cho's ability to discuss a range of topics.

"For Pride, she speaks to a whole spectrum of issues," said Brown. "To bring in someone of that caliber, you really have to work with so many different groups, and she speaks to so many issues that it seems like there are a lot of groups [that can join] the process."

The KSA and Pride Alliance began planning with the CPC last November, said Brown, and faced several challenges in developing the event, such as scheduling Cho's date and assembling resources on campus.

"She is the kind of speaker that is outside of the budget of just one student group," said Brown.

The KSA and Pride Alli-

ance appealed to other student groups for assistance with the expenses of Cho's visit, eventually resulting in an allocation of \$30,000 to \$35,000, according to CPC Comedy Co-chair Ethan Stern, a sophomore.

Stern says that the high spending for the event is no great surprise because Cho is a high-profile speaker and is currently busy with her new U.S. tour, called "Beautiful," which began early March and will continue until June.

For the KSA, Pride Alliance and several hundred students across campus, Cho's visit seemed worth the expense.

"Already we have a lot of students who are very excited about her coming," said Park before the event.

Park points out that Cho represents the case of many adolescent Korean-Americans of her generation who are straddled between two cultures, much like herself.

"My parents are first generation immigrants. I am in the middle of both Korean culture and American pop culture. Growing up here, it

See CHO, page 2

## WRIGHTON RELIVES KINDERGARTEN



Chancellor Mark Wrighton participates in the third Annual Campus YMCA Teeter-Totter-a-Thon Wednesday morning on the Campus Y patio. The event involved students, professors and staff members teeter-tottering for 24 hours over a two-day period. All of the proceeds from the event went to benefit the student-led community service programs at the Washington University Campus YMCA.

## Interfaith dialogue promotes religious understanding

BY MIN WANG  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Students of all faiths are invited to gather tonight at St. Louis Hillel to take part in an interfaith dialogue centered on services for Jewish Shabbat (the Hebrew word for 'Sabbath').

The event, co-sponsored and funded by an array of campus religious groups, is the first of its kind to stimulate interfaith conversation by inviting a diverse body of students to Jewish services.

The driving force behind the event is David Schwartz, a senior majoring in education. Schwartz says that the event will help students see how their friends live religiously.

"It is important that people are able to better understand those they are spending four years of college and beyond with," said Schwartz. "Religion is an important part of many people's identities, and understanding people better at that level helps us understand what makes people tick."

The event will begin at 6 p.m. and will take place at St. Louis Hillel, a chapter of the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life located at 6300 Forsyth Blvd.

The Interfaith Shabbat will be organized into two main parts. There will be an opportunity to observe one of the three Jewish services that take place weekly or a special learner's service.

The second half of the Shabbat will include an informal discussion and dinner.

The meal will be made up of foods from an interfaith menu, representing foods traditional to several major faiths. As guests dine on a menu that includes grape leaves, chicken soup, ribs and samosas, "facilitators" will be at each table to sustain the discussion.

Because the organizers of the event sought financial help from several different organizations, the dinner will be free for all at-

See INTERFAITH, page 2

## Film festival looks to change perception of Africa

BY TIFFANY FRYE  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Seeking to dispel stereotypes about Africa and its culture, Washington University will host the third annual African Film Festival this weekend.

The festival will feature eight films this year, four shorts and four full-length features, which all have won international awards. The films will address a wide variety of topics including identity, immigration and AIDS,

with a focus on how these issues affect the family structure.

According to Wilmetta Tolliver-Diallo, assistant dean of Arts & Sciences and the coordinator of the festival, one of the goals of the festival is to broaden students' views of and interests in Africa, and to show the cultural texture of the continent.

"We want to counter a lot of the prevalent images and myths about Africa," said Tolliver-Diallo. "It is such a diverse

continent with so many nations, ethnicities and cultures that it is hard to speak of Africa. The festival helps us by showcasing eight different countries so the audience gets an opportunity to see the diversity of the continent."

The festival will also give students a glimpse into the nature of African cinema and the voices of African filmmakers.

"There is definitely a unique African film industry that mixes oral traditions, oral storytell-

ing, and community dialogue, in contrast to the one-on-one dialogue you tend to see in Hollywood," said Tolliver-Diallo.

Another common practice of African filmmakers is the use of both professional and non-professional actors and an informal script.

"The filmmaker will talk about his concept to his actors and let them naturally use the vocabulary, intonation and reactions that are natural," said Tolliver-Diallo.

A discussion led by the African Students of Social Work that will take place after the films on Sunday night has been added to this year's festival.

Students will have a chance to discuss the films shown Sunday as well as those shown on previous nights of the Festival.

This year, the Festival has collaborated with the Saint Louis Art Museum (S.L.A.M.) and University alum Rhonda Brossard

See FESTIVAL, page 2

## Wash. U.'s pimpest rides



We scoured the parking garages (in a non-stalkerish fashion) to find the best wheels on campus. Maybe your car is here. Check it out in Scene, Page 8

## Softball prepares for invitational



The softball team is preparing for the St. Louis Invitational this weekend and is hoping for a stellar performance. See Sports, Page 6

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**FESTIVAL ♦ FROM PAGE 1**

of La Crèche—a francophone society in St. Louis—to present a Youth Festival. Films will be shown at S.L.A.M. Wednesday and Thursday for nearly 200 elementary, middle and high school students.

Tolliver-Diallo noted the importance of developing not only knowledge of African issues in younger students, but also a "visual vocabulary that will enable them to discuss cinema in a sophisticated manner."

The African Film Festival is sponsored by grants from the Washington University Women's Society and the Missouri Arts Council and will be held in Brown Hall, Room 100 at 7 p.m. with free admission.

# Pulse

Compiled by Perry Stein

**Friday, March 28**

**Education Awareness Week**

As a part of the first annual Education Awareness Week, there will be a mini-field day from 4-6 p.m. on the swamp. Sponsored by the Education Collaboration, this week's theme is "Education: Just Talk About It."

**Track Competition**

The Washington University track and field team will commence its three-day invitational today. The decathlon will begin today at noon and the heptathlon will start at 12:30 at the Bushyhead Track in St. Louis.

**Saturday, March 29**

**South Asian Awareness Week**

On Saturday there will be a field day with cricket and Kabbadi on the field in front of LabSci at 12:30 p.m. Kabbadi is a team sport originally from the Indian subcontinent in which teams take turns sending a "raider" across to the opposite team's half, where the goal is to tag or wrestle members of the opposite team before returning to the home half. The event comes as a part of South Asian Awareness Week.

**Sunday, March 30**

**Freshman Class Council**

Freshmen should come out to the swamp for the Freshman Class Council's final event of the year, FINALE 2011. The swamp will be filled with inflatables, games, food and prizes followed by a big-screen showing of the Bears' basketball games. The event will begin at 2 p.m. and run until 7 p.m.

**HABITAT ♦ FROM PAGE 1**

why it's so hard to break that cycle."

According to sophomore Kristen Klempert, the group's fundraising chair, Saturday's event is meant to encapsulate all of Habitat's initiatives.

"The main goal isn't just for fundraising," said Klempert. "We're trying to cover all parts of our mission: the building, the advocacy, education and fundraising."

While the Build Challenge marks the student group's most public campus initiative, Habitat's yearly activities go beyond building cardboard houses. Students go on regular weekend service trips around the St. Louis area to help build affordable houses for low-income families.

Through fundraising and hands-on building, and in partnership with its larger St. Louis affiliate, the campus chapter of

Habitat has helped to build one house each year in the area.

"I really enjoyed the building experience, and getting to meet the family that was going to live in the house," said Ghosal. "You got to work alongside the people who were benefiting from it and really see exactly the impact you were making."

Although the deadline to register teams has passed, students interested in assembling their own building team can sign up for the event on site or online. The registration fee is \$7 per person.

"I think if people hear more about it, they'll get more involved," said Ghosal of the campus chapter.

For more information on "WashU Build Challenge," "Act! Speak! Build! Week" or any other volunteer opportunities, visit <http://habitat.wustl.edu>.

**CHO ♦ FROM PAGE 1**

definitely created conflicts between my parents' generation and our second generation," said Park. "I am very interested in how [Cho] dealt with her family and their difference in opinions."

Brown says that many in the LGBT community see Cho as a leader.

"Within the LGBT community, she is a very strong ally, and she is very vocal about being an ally," he said. "She is also very out, but she is out in a way that

challenges people's perception of what an Asian woman should be. She challenges that model of minority stereotype."

According to Brown, an initial issue raised by the student groups sponsoring Cho's event was the topics she would address.

"If they were going to contribute, they really wanted to make sure they were going to be represented in her programming," he said.

Brown says, however, that

**'YOU' SLATE ♦**

can sign into all of Washington University's Web services at once, and an improved SU Web site. Nelson hopes that the improved technology will improve relations between SU and student groups.

"A survey showed us that SU isn't meeting the needs of student groups," he said. "Student groups can easily market themselves to students. [We are] making the jobs of student groups easier through technology."

The slate's commitment to better dining services, coming in conjunction with the opening of a new food court in the Danforth University Center (DUC), includes goals of extending the hours of dining facilities and shortening the lines in busy venues.

"[We are] making dining more convenient for students," said Tiberwala. "We're in the works of thinking about new ideas."

The slate says that its third goal of increased school spirit has been bolstered by the University's recent national championships, and hopes that students will become more enthusiastic about events on campus.

"Students aren't riled up about the things that we do," said Alimi. "We're working with different organizations to make sure that people on campus are getting more involved."

Despite running largely unopposed, the slate says that it ran a successful and active campaign, and that it will con-

**FROM PAGE 1**

tinue to communicate with students.

"During our campaign, we said, 'We have the opportunity to introduce ourselves to students,'" said Perez. "We got out to a bunch of different places. YOU made an impact throughout this past week. We hope to carry that through our term."

Although the slate's members all have internal SU experience, they do not see themselves as a direct continuation of the current board.

"We will continue a lot of the initiatives we've started this year," said Perez. "I think Student Union is going to go in a new direction. I hope that will bring a lot more life to Student Union."

**Block funding proposals pass**

Block funding proposals from Sexual Assault and Rape Anonymous Hotline (S.A.R.A.H.), Habitat for Humanity and the initiative to increase fitness funding were all approved in the election.

S.A.R.A.H. requested \$5,734, Habitat asked for \$0.99 per student and the fitness initiative requested \$56,000. All garnered the approval of at least three-quarters of voters, and the fitness initiative took 93 percent of voters.

"It's a big day for fitness facilities at Washington University," said current SU President Neil Patel. "This is a significant step in the right direction. We sent a clear message to the University community that fitness facilities need to be improved."

**INTERFAITH ♦****FROM PAGE 1**

tendees.

Schwartz hopes that the night will allow students to become more familiar not only with Judaism, but also with other religions.

"Facilitators will be present to begin the discussion and to keep it going after that if it doesn't flow naturally," said Schwartz. "Even if the discussions naturally end up flowing to non-religious areas, I think that still helps to achieve our goal of showing that people of different religions are more similar than one might think."

The mood for the evening is expected to be optimistic and positive, with the aim of appreciating diversity, but with the goal of reconciling differences between faiths to show similarities in beliefs and values.

Sophomore Lauren Monaco, a student involved with the project through the campus ministry College Central, looks forward to the opportunity to learn.

"I'm looking forward to the dialogue because it is really rare to find an opportunity to discuss what people of other faiths believe. If the event is successful, it would be great if it could happen again," said Monaco.

Sophomore Michelle Eisenberg, who is also involved in the planning, says that hosting students at Hillel should only be the first step in a larger conversation about religion.

"This is a great start, but it needs to go farther than just having dinner and observing services," said Eisenberg. "In the future, there should be more chances to continue the dialogue."

**THE MANY FACES OF CHO**

Margaret Cho cracks up students with stand-up comedy in the 560 Building on Thursday evening. Cho appeals to a wide audience and, despite the higher price tag, was considered well worth it.

her issues with weight gain and body image.

"She definitely talks about that, and I definitely expect her to talk about it. I've seen her talk to college students before, and she is very good with honing in on the issues that college students care about and addressing those," said Brown.

But Brown hopes that every

member in the audience walked away having gained some new learning from Cho.

"What I'm thinking is that she won't answer questions for people; she will create questions for people," he said.

*Student Life* could not obtain student reactions because the event took place after press time.

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# CADENZA

## ALBUM REVIEW

## Panic at the Disco: 'Pretty. Odd.'

BY DAVID KAMINSKY  
MUSIC EDITOR

Panic at the Disco may not be terribly inventive with their music, but damn are they business savvy. After contacting Pete Wentz (of Fall Out Boy/ Ashlee Simpson's boy toy/ cell phone penis picture fame) through his LiveJournal and asking him to check out their band, Wentz actually gave Panic a listen and was so impressed that he flew out to their sinful hometown of Las Vegas and attended a practice in their garage, afterwards signing them to his Fueled by Ramen imprint label, Decaydance.

Around this time, Wentz's Fall Out Boy released "From Under the Cork Tree," an unprecedented success that propelled them to tabloid stardom. Thus, when Panic at the Disco recorded and released "A Fever You Can't Sweat Out," an album so sonically similar to the one put out by Fall Out Boy only months before that it could have been a B-side disc, Wentz's endorsement catapulted them to stardom.

Now, here's when Panic at the Disco get *really* smart. With full knowledge of the fates of other trend tailgaters (i.e. the Hives, the Vines, Jet and every band that made it big because of the Strokes), they've dropped the stupid exclamation point from their name, abandoned Fall Out Boy's style and picked up the Beatles' as a replacement.



Given their hometown, it's easy to see where they got the idea. I can see it now: Panic, wandering aimlessly down the Vegas strip, stumble into a performance of Cirque du Soleil's "Love." They all look at each other with a knowing grin. "Hey, people love Cabaret and the Beatles! We've got the whole Cabaret thing down, let's sound like the Beatles!" And the rest is "Pretty. Odd."

Well, not really. I won't lie, the album is about as un-odd as an album can be. As a society we're all pretty used to a sound similar to that of the Beatles'. Nonetheless, "Pretty. Odd." is surprisingly Pretty. Good. The songs are all familiar on first listen, but in a nice way, like sleeping in your own bed after a long trip.

Some standouts on the album include "Do You Know What I'm Seeing?" a dreamy little number featuring some nice vocals and orchestra parts and "She Had the World," which features some of the best voice work in their discography, coming from backup vocalist Ryan Ross.

While Panic at the Disco has not put together anything remotely innovative, "Pretty. Odd." is a surprisingly good sophomore (and, to be honest, sophomore) effort. With well-used guitar, harmonica and more theatrical arrangements, it is an album that is easy to enjoy. The well-executed classic sound will ensure their careers as musicians.

### Panic at the Disco *Pretty. Odd.*

**Rating:** ★★★★☆  
**Tracks to download:** "Do You Know What I'm Seeing?", "She Had the World," "Mad as Rabbits"  
**For fans of:** The Beatles, music that hearkens back, Pete Wentz

## MOVIE REVIEW

## "What makes you special, '21'? Not as much as you would like!"

BY ASEEM GARG  
CADERNA REPORTER

As a movie enthusiast, I consider myself pretty knowledgeable when it comes to actors and their recent performances, so it should have been a smack across the face when I couldn't recall the last Kevin Spacey performance I enjoyed since "Pay It Forward."

After a quick sojourn to IMDb, I found the reason for my transgression: There *hasn't been* a good Kevin Spacey performance since "Pay It Forward." Some of you may point to David Gale as an exception, but let's be honest, this is the Kevin Spacey of "The Usual Suspects," and "American Beauty." David Gale, Schmavid Gale.

That streak of mediocrity/disappointment is in no danger after his performance in "21." The film, based on a true story by way of a book by Ben Mezrich, is a story of too-smart-for-their-own-good Massachusetts Institute of Technology students learning how to beat the Vegas system by counting cards.

The film revolves around one extremely special student, Ben (Jim Sturgess of "Across the Universe" fame), an MIT senior with early acceptance to Harvard Medical School who's short on tuition money and needs an exclusive scholarship in order to go. He meets with a prominent professor and member of the scholarship committee at Harvard, who tells him that his 4.0 GPA, leadership in student government and prize-winning entry into a prestigious science fair entitle him to...absolutely nothing. The last winner, remarks the professor, was a one-legged blind Korean immigrant.

Does this sound mildly familiar? Ben comes from a single-parent household with barely enough income to put

him through private university and nowhere near the income needed for three years of medical school and beyond. How many of us faced this in the college admissions process? We were great students, participated in many extracurriculars and led them with flying colors, and yet were no match for the student from New York City who spent her entire junior year leading a research project in Kenya or the student from Japan who had performed with the Boston Pops. Ben's best friend asks him, "What makes you special?" I have the same question for the movie as a whole.

Ben is forced to find ways to make his tuition money outside of the scholarship and his recent promotion at J. Press to \$8 per hour. He is approached by sketchy Professor Spacey to join his underground group of brilliant MIT students in learning how to count cards and swindle Vegas for hundreds of thousands of dollars through blackjack, the only beatable casino game. Ben joins with the condition that as soon as he reaches his tuition goal, he's quitting. Right, because making money without working for it is such an easy addiction to give up. Along the way, Ben falls for Kate Bosworth's character (major daddy issue alert) and confronts Laurence Fishburne (in a clearly for-the-paycheck performance). The audience is asked to root for Ben, but really, why am I rooting for the poor MIT genius who figured out how to use his intellect to make oodles and oodles of free money? Not while I'm watching my meal points slowly dwindle away before the semester ends, with no hope in sight.

Kevin Spacey as the clichéd professor/mentor fails to enthrall. He tries to establish himself as a "cool" professor by quoting "Ferris Bueller." "Anyone... Anyone... Bueller..."

he cleverly remarks. Regardless of his corny lines ("The best thing about Vegas—you can become anything you want"), this Danny Ocean-wannabe fails to live up to the single most important rule of any successful Vegas flick: Never underestimate your enemy. We see him overplaying his hand from the start, predicting only worse things to come as the movie progresses.

The movie is clearly aimed at the college crowd. An inditing sound track along with a romantic storyline of geek-meets-goddess does nothing in hiding this blatant marketing. How is it possible, though, that the director so misjudged the sympathies of collegians across the world? Whether or not you identify with Ben's troubles in distinguishing himself before the scholarship committee, you would be hard-pressed to support his endeavor to make more money than he knows what to do with only to blow it on Gucci suits and expensive strip clubs. I would be willing to forgive the ridiculous assumptions the director makes if it weren't for the low-quality

acting that plagues "21" like a bad run of luck. I anticipated a crummy Vegas thriller when I went in, but with at least some semblance of reputable acting based on the cast list. What I got was a poorly acted, poorly scripted Vegas thriller with a slightly suspenseful ending. Instead of spending \$9 and your Saturday night going to see "21," I suggest flipping through whatever thriller TNT or TBS is showing for the fourth time that day. You'll save yourself gas, money and me in your head saying repeatedly, "I told you so!" However, if you're free Friday night, you can see "21" for free thanks to the fine folks at Filmboard. Be at the Clocktower at 5 p.m. to pick up your ticket.

21

**Rating:** ★★★★☆  
**Starring:** Jim Sturgess, Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth  
**Directed by:** Robert Luketic  
**Release Date:** March 28, 2008



MCT

Jim Sturgess, left, and co-star Kate Bosworth arrive at the premiere for "21," held at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas March 12, 2008.

## Showcase hits the stage dancing

BY MICHELLE STEIN  
THEATER EDITOR

The Young Choreographer's Showcase premieres this weekend at the Mertz Studio, and all I can say is "Wow!" I know, when someone says "dance recital" the immediate, twofold reaction is cringe-worthy: "The Nutcracker Ballet" and the obligatory grade school dance recitals that never seem to end.

Not this. Dance tends to be its own language, and at times its own world. While I may not speak the language, I can certainly inhabit the world long enough to appreciate it.

The biannual show, which lasted about an hour and 15 minutes, was made up of seven dances choreographed

by different students in the department. Most of these choreographers are dance minors, or have declared dance as a second major. Each choreographer used a varying number of dancers in their show, ranging from one to eight. Some pieces had no set. One piece, "the Gathering," used a couch and a table. I enjoyed displays of everything from modern dance to pointe-ballet. The pieces were so different, eclectic and full of diverse emotions that to try and describe the show as a whole is simply impossible.

The only tying themes were the ideas of movement and emotion. The dancers told me they wanted the audience to realize that dance doesn't have

to be restricted. I was urged to open up and just let the dancing elicit an emotion. On the other hand, I was also told that sometimes dance can be movement purely for movement's sake.

While these ideas may seem jumbled, they worked well together. True, each dance seemed unconnected to those around it, but that sense of unconnected nature kept me interested and made me wonder what was coming next. In short, I was captivated.

The show's strongest quality wasn't the costumes (which were nice and added to the interest) or the lights (which helped create mood changes). It wasn't even the talent of the

dancers, though they were amazing.

The Young Choreographer's Showcase worked because everything came together for a show that was disjointed enough to keep me interested without losing me, and made me eager to see what could come next.

So even if you are not a dancer—not all of us are blessed with grace—this show will keep you watching. It's short, it has a lot of talent, and it will make an audience member feel more in an hour than they normally feel in a day. The show starts at 8 p.m. March 28 and 29 and at 2 p.m. March 30.

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# FORUM

## Race and human fallibility

BY NANDAN PRASAD  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Last Tuesday, Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois delivered a speech on race relations in an attempt to focus the controversy surrounding his former pastor on how to solve racial tension in the United States. He was both praised and criticized for the speech—which everyone agreed was an unconventional approach to such bumps in the road that occur during presidential campaigns. Rather than

try to cover-up the controversy and evidence of racial tensions that had emerged, Obama put it out in the open for all of us to see, analyze and examine.

What I found impressive about Obama's speech is that he was effectively critical yet hopeful of America and its citizens. The idea of hope is nothing new in Obama's campaign, but this time Obama built this hope around the imperfections of the American people and what can be achieved if those imperfections are overcome.

Equality is obviously a fundamental value in the United

States. It is protected by our Constitution, and along with liberty and democracy is one of the core values that led to the founding of our nation. But what does it mean to truly value equality? Decades after the civil rights movement and the end of institutionalized racial segregation in the United States, inequality still exists in income, healthcare, education, etc. Do we still value equality? Is this the equality that the leaders of the civil rights movement envisioned? We are all proud of our country because it values equality, but in practice the law

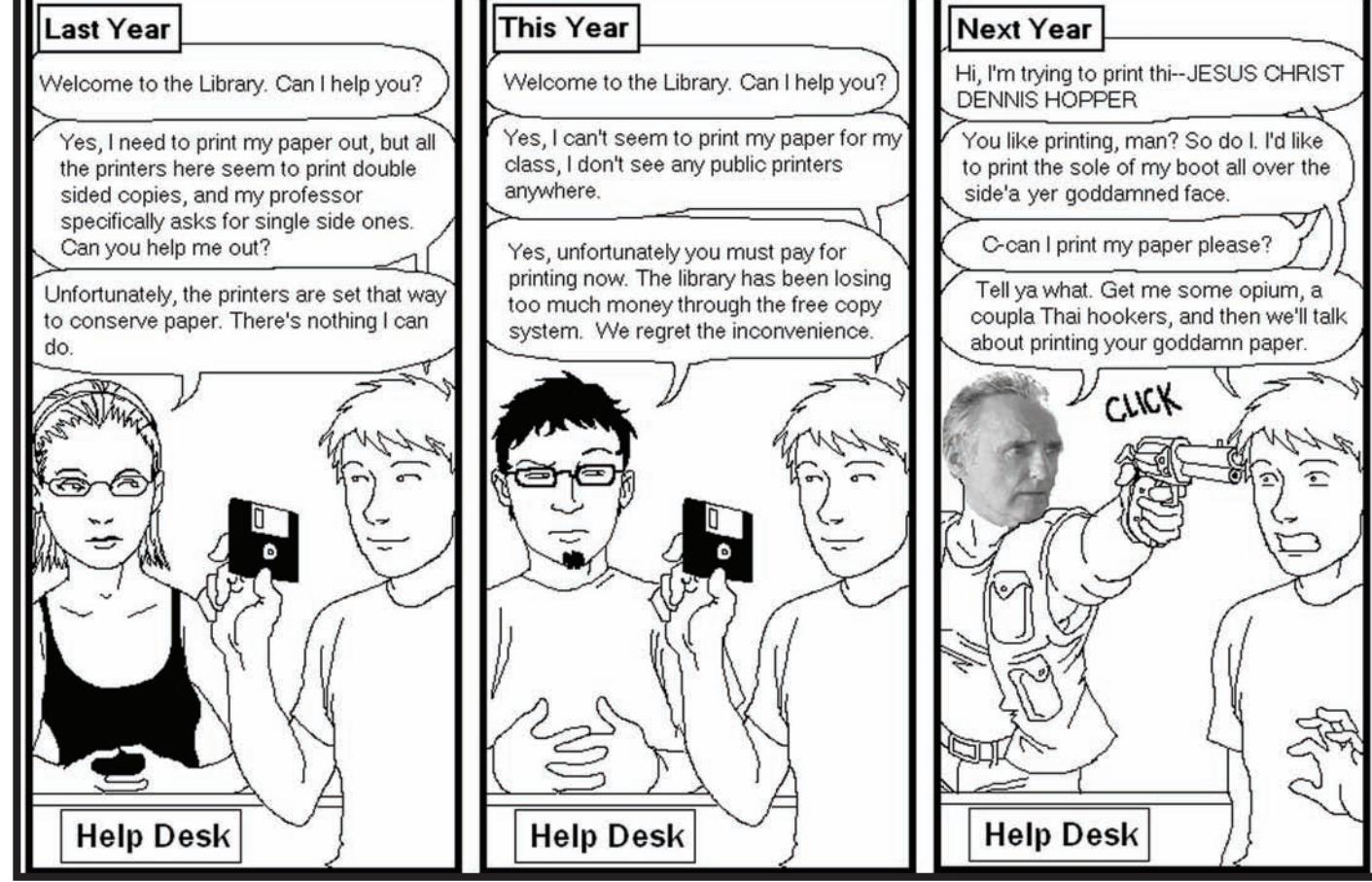
and our Constitution seem to have failed us.

The fact of the matter is that equality doesn't exist just because a bunch of words on paper says it does. Laws can say everyone is equal and everyone should be treated equally. Racism can be eliminated on face in all institutions and laws. But ultimately, individual human beings make the decisions that affect each other's lives, and thus human subjectivity enters the equation. Therefore, people with racial prejudice are still

See PRASAD, page 5

### THE CLASSIC JOHNNY CHANG | EDITORIAL CARTOON

#### Escalation of Hostilities



This Johnny Chang cartoon was originally published in *Student Life* on September 8, 2006.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## In need of an objective ballot

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express my disappointment concerning yesterday's Student Union ballot and its three block funding proposals. I feel that the inconsistent and uninformative synopses that accompanied the three block initiatives created an unfortunate, but notable bias.

The synopsis of the Habitat for Humanity block grant clearly stated that approximately \$0.99 per undergraduate student would be devoted to the initiative.

In less clear, but still satisfactory language, the S.A.R.A.H. synopsis stated that less than one percent of the student activity fee would be allotted, though it did not specifically say what the amount would be. However, if one was aware of the total amount of each student activities fee (\$345 this year), it could be inferred that no more than \$3.45 would be allotted.

The synopsis of the Athletic

Complex block funding significantly departed from the other two models. It simply noted, "You will not pay an additional fee," because the funding will come from the student activities fee.

Such a statement is true of all block-funding initiatives, yet that cachet was not noted in the S.A.R.A.H. and Habitat descriptions, which could have led students to infer that such initiatives would indeed increase their activities fee.

The description of block funding further exacerbated the confusion, as it claimed that the money originates from "the Student Union operations account," with no reference to the student activities fee, which I assume to be the true origin of the money.

Furthermore, and even more importantly, the synopsis omitted the real cost of the Athletic Complex proposal, which SU has previously claimed to be approximately \$60,000—roughly \$10 of each student's activities fee. This

is significantly more than the other two proposals' costs and a significant enough amount to influence a student's vote of "yes" or "no."

Ironically, Student Union's "Candidate Statement" advertisement included a detailed testimonial from Habitat, the least significant proposal (in terms of real dollars), but not from S.A.R.A.H. and, more importantly, not from the Athletic Complex proposal.

I write not to expose a great conspiracy; indeed, I do not believe anyone intentionally manipulated the ballot. I simply feel that it would be unfortunate for poor wording to alter the fate of tens of thousands of our dollars.

A clear, consistent and objective ballot is the foundation of any democratic initiative. Let us hope future SU elections can boast such a hallmark.

-Dustin Palmer  
Class of 2011

### Remember International Women's Day

Dear Editor:

International Women's Day (IWD), a day dedicated to acknowledging female achievement and advocating for gender equality, began on March 19, 1911. Arising from socialist and feminist movements of the late 19th and early 20th century in Europe and North America, the holiday has grown into a transnational movement. Though it has never been credited to one official founder, Bolshevik feminist Alexandra Kollontai organized the first major IWD celebration in 1911.

Though the movement declined following World War I, it experienced a reemergence during the social and political upheaval of the 1960s. During International Women's Year in 1975, the United Nations gave

IWD official recognition. The holiday is celebrated all over the globe, but it is officially recognized as a national holiday in the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Italy, Laos, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia.

Currently, IWD is celebrated on March 8. This past March 8, over 643 IWD events took place in 55 countries—some with political themes, others with human rights themes and others that were meant to thank women for their contribution to society.

For instance, in Iceland, the Women's Union for Culture and Peace held a peace rally open to all the public. In Morocco, the holiday is celebrated with several sporting events including a women's golf tournament and a women's motorbike

competition. The Peruvian College of Physics uses the day to recognize the contributions of women doctors by hosting an award ceremony and dinner reception. In Cambodia, the United Nations led a text messaging campaign to recognize women's role in society.

Throughout the world, this day is used to honor women, to create change for the better, and to recognize the ways in which women across the globe are connected. So, take a moment to consider the ways that women activists, scholars, politicians, athletes, writers, doctors, mothers, sisters, teachers and friends have influenced your life in honor of the recent holiday. Thank a woman. Think about women. Write about women. Wish someone happy International Women's Day!

-Emily Becker and Morgan Ryan  
Class of 2010

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# College student: a full-time occupation



BY BRIAN PRICE  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Imagine this: It's May 1, and I've just finished my last exam of the semester. I've checked it over and, confident that I've done well, I hand it in to the professor. Without pausing, I leave the classroom behind and eagerly set my sights upon the next three and a half months. Having worked hard throughout the year to bolster my transcript, I figure that I deserve a while to relax. Alas, the old adage isn't true, and April showers will be followed by, well, May showers.

There was a time a while back when literally "taking off" the entire summer was perfectly acceptable. When you're in elementary school or perhaps even junior high, no one cares if you spend your days sleeping until noon, your

afternoons watching TV, and your evenings watching more TV. Ideally, the "Summer of (Insert Name Here)" is what we all want, and though its exact definition may vary slightly for each individual, the overall trend is obviously one of pleasure over practicality. The real world, however, is populated by sleep doctors and not professional sleepers, network executives rather than expert television viewers.

This not-so-shocking fact leads to the May showers I mentioned before. When I've arrived back home, I'll no doubt get one or two weeks to decompose and live the good life. But then it's back into the workplace, likely in the form of a nine-to-five job for minimal wage. An internship would be better, but I've found that these are hard to come by (especially

for a first-year student) and often require lots of travel time. Many of the most appealing ones are also in other cities, and while doing a summer abroad program in high school seemed OK, after having spent virtually the entire year in St. Louis, I feel like a couple months at home would be good.

So you can see, then, that I'm never technically "on break." While the nominal concepts of "homework" and "exams" may not exist in the summertime, most employers will tell you that every day in the workplace is a test (or some other similarly banal expression) and so you've got to stay focused at all times and work hard in order to succeed. Such a mentality will undoubtedly prove beneficial in the long run, but after a taxing year

of school it can be difficult to keep your head in the game.

I've often heard people call college the last time in your life when you can really have fun. Seeing as I haven't reached the next level yet, I can't say for sure whether or not this is true. What I do know, though, is that after college there is no winter break or summer vacation. Except for a very few exceptions, work is a constant that persists for twelve months of the year.

Thus while it may, from the perspective of a college student, seem lame and unnecessary, getting a job or internship can prove immensely helpful in adapting to one's future lifestyle.

*Brian is a freshman in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at [brprice@artssci.wustl.edu](mailto:brprice@artssci.wustl.edu).*

## Zack Morris, Kelly Kapowski and me

Lately my TiVo has been recording one of my favorite shows of all time, "Saved by the Bell." Over the past few weeks, I've been watching countless episodes and reliving my childhood. In watching these brilliant episodes, I've been reminded of how opinionated I am with regard to these characters and their stories. And so, for my final column in *Student Life*, I've decided to have my important thoughts on the issue published. (Can you sense the Senioritis?) Anyway, if you're not familiar with the show, stop reading and get away from that rock you've been living under for so long.

I'll begin with my thoughts on the main characters:

Zack Morris: one of my biggest role models in life. He's able to date just about every girl in school, skip class, lead his own rock band (Zack Attack), be a basketball star and score miraculous 1502 on the SAT. How could this guy not be everybody's role model? Oh yeah, and he went out with (and later married) Kelly Kapowski. What more do you need?



Altin Sila

Speaking of Kelly, could there be a more perfect girl? She's gorgeous. She's head cheerleader (and of course, the most popular girl in school), and she's extraordinarily nice. She never puts anyone down and tries to accommodate everyone's needs.

For the opposite of this, look no further than Lisa "The Worst Character" Turtle. She's outright evil to Screech. I can't help but think as I watch the show, "It's alright if you don't like him, but isn't he your friend? What's up with the constant put-downs all the time? And another thing: We get that you're into fashion. You don't need to bring it up at every moment you're not driving Screech toward becoming a sociopath."

Why does Screech take all of her, and everyone else's, insults? Are those real friends?

I used to really dislike A.C. Slater, but after watching a lot of episodes lately, I'm starting to come around. So what if he has a Jheri curl mullet? He seems like a genuinely nice person to me. He took responsibility when he crashed the drivers ed car outside Mr.

Belding's office and did a great job rescuing Denise Richards when working as a beach lifeguard (yes, that was her).

And Jessie Spano? Oink, baby.

What was the deal with Tori Scott, that biker girl? She came, Jessie and Kelly disappeared, and then she disappeared never to be heard from again? While it bugs me that this parallel universe could never be explained, I say good riddance. She was horrible. Are we really supposed to believe that Zack Morris would lower his standards by that amount? Going from Kelly Kapowski to Tori Scott would be like going from lobster to sardines. Give me a break.

And as big a fan of Kelly Kapowski as I am, how could she leave Zack for that creepy Jeff guy? I always wondered why Zack and A.C. didn't meet him out in the parking lot outside The Max late one night. To make matters worse, she again left Zack in "The College Years" for her professor, Prof. Lasky. At least she came to her senses in the end.

I remember back when I used to watch "Saved by the Bell" in elementary school, I couldn't help but think that my experiences in high school (and

later, college) would be similar to those that I watched on my TV. I thought that every time a girl gave me a peck on the cheek, anyone watching would scream and shout, "oooooh!" After seeing Jessie's singing career destroyed, I was so scared of developing an overbearing caffeine addiction that I didn't start drinking coffee until only one year ago. And I was really looking forward to all of the blonde bimbos.

Well, none of that happened. My college experience hasn't been anything like Zack Morris', but that doesn't mean that it wasn't a good time. After all, John Lennon once wrote that "life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." If four years ago someone had told me that I'd be graduating from Wash. U. in 2008, I would have called them crazy. But here I am, and I'm grateful for the opportunities that this University has granted me. I've only spent two short years here, but they have been well worth it. Good luck in the future everyone! Go Bayside!

*Altin is a senior in Arts & Sciences and a Forum editor. He can be reached via e-mail at [forum@studlife.com](mailto:forum@studlife.com).*

## REMEDIOS ♦ FROM PAGE 4

You can quit drinking; you can avoid exposing yourself to alcohol. How do you quit and avoid food? You can't—and that's my entire point.

And what exactly is my point, you ask? Well, this: If we are ever going to solve the health care crisis and "fix" our society (physically, if nothing else), we have to change the way we think about health. We have to change the way we

see disease, the way we define disease and the way we treat disease, especially in young people and especially, especially in young women. Because most women who suffer from anorexia are, socio-economically speaking, middle to upper class, with access to health care and health insurance. And yet only 0.5 percent of those women are receiving sufficient care. While this may

not be the most pressing issue facing the nation, it's still an issue. This is an issue that should matter to us given the demographics of this University and the fact that all of us can likely think of at least one person who, if she does not have an eating disorder, at least diets excessively. Yet, this is an issue we hear almost nothing about, save that one week when they put up

flyers and have a film-screening of "Thin."

If there's one thing scarier than the fact that one in three girls is struggling with these issues, it's this: How many of those girls, do we think, even know it?

*Sara is a junior in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at [saremedi@wustl.edu](mailto:saremedi@wustl.edu).*

## Sleepless in St. Louis

As students at Washington University, I am sure that we are all familiar with the ever-popular all-nighter. Such an experience often occurs when several professors decide to hold a nefarious meeting in their underground lair (heated by the burning souls of graduate students) where they mastermind a plan to have an exam, a project and a multi-page paper due on the same day.



Christian Sherden

tion the normalcy of a regular sleep schedule. One begins to think that he or she can actually feel the Earth rotating and watch the sun pass over the sky followed closely by the moon followed closely again by the sun.

But no, this is just the insanity setting in.

In the end, pulling the proverbial all-nighter seems like an accomplishment. At the least it gives you bragging rights. At the most (for those fellow masochists out there) it can be kind of fun.

A study at St. Lawrence University showed that at least "two-thirds of the students reported that they had pulled at least one all-nighter during a semester." Considering that St. Lawrence University does not even register on the U.S. News and World Report rankings of top colleges in the nation (and that Wash. U. is No. 12), I would imagine our numbers to be a bit higher.

The current world record for sleeplessness was set in 1977 by a rocking chair marathoner by the name of Maureen Weston who managed to go 449 hours (almost 19 days) without once stopping to rest her eyes. The resulting effects are best recorded by a high school 17-year-old named Randy Gardner in 1964, who stayed up for a full 11 days, the consequences of which are effectively the same as those of doing hard drugs: moodiness, slurred speech, loss of motor functions and hallucinations. I stayed up for three days once and can attest to these ailments and to the fact that it was an excruciatingly awful experience.

More importantly, many studies (including ones done by St. Lawrence University, Stanford University and one by Brown University that found that college students are the most sleep deprived people in the country) show that, though lack of sleep may be a suitable means for getting it all done, it greatly decreases academic and sports performance and should not be used as a means for getting ahead.

So ask for an extension, make up an excuse (I was rescuing beached whales off the coast of...uh...Morocco?) or take a late grade, but make some time for shut-eye because your professors are plotting as we speak.

*Christian is a senior in Arts & Sciences and a forum editor. He can be reached via e-mail at [forum@studlife.com](mailto:forum@studlife.com).*

## PRASAD ♦ FROM PAGE 4

capable of heavily influencing the extent to which equality is realized within a society. Normal human beings decide who to pull over for speeding, who to arrest, who to prosecute and who to hire for a job. Human imperfection can thus lead to a cycle in which relatively few individuals can marginalize a racial minority, increasing racial tension and fueling a cycle of hatred and prejudice. But while this happens in front of us, our pride of living in an egalitarian society where all individuals are supposed to be equal compels us to turn a blind eye to such racism, in essence asserting that it could not have real affects on people's lives. While some recognize such racism for what it is, many do not. "Surely not under our laws and our Constitution," many of us seem to think. And thus, as Obama puts it, "legitimate discussions of racial injustice and inequality" are dismissed "as mere political correctness or reverse racism."

In his speech, Obama openly embraced our fallibility. Rather than placating our fears of racial tensions and dismissing them as unrealistic, he challenged us to look past his former pastor's offensive remarks, to the reason why such anger exists in the African-American community. Moreover, he managed to link this same anger to the anger in the white community at opportunities they feel are being taken from them, as well as similar resentments in the immigrant community. He asked us to examine our own beliefs and feelings, and consider how they affect the racial divide. He encouraged us to examine race in broader

contexts, and admit to ourselves that our own beliefs and prejudices can define to what extent racial equality becomes a reality. He criticized all races for the anger and frustration that has divided our country in what he described as a "racial stalemate." Obama managed to circumvent the differences that divide us, and argued that we all face common struggles as one people in this country.

Equality can and is undermined by human fallibility. We rely heavily on what politicians, laws and our Constitution say as guidance but we never examine ourselves critically to ensure that we do not contribute to a cycle of racial injustice and inequality. Equality cannot be forced into a society through laws and policies; it must be feverishly worked toward by its people. It must be a belief held in the highest regard, an issue we often discuss and never dismiss.

So how does Obama's speech affect the primary? Will he convince voters to look past the controversy? I frankly don't care. What I saw last week was a man who was truly committed to the well-being of people of all races and faiths. I saw a genuine attempt to unite the American people under a cause for justice, and to heal the wounds that have divided and scarred this country for so long. And as critical as I have been of Senator Obama in the past, I cannot help but be impressed and inspired.

*Nandan is a freshman in Arts & Sciences and a staff columnist. He can be reached via e-mail at [nprasad@artssci.wustl.edu](mailto:nprasad@artssci.wustl.edu).*

# SPORTS

## SOFTBALL

# Softball set for St. Louis Invitational

BY JOHANN QUA HIANSEN  
SPORTS EDITOR

wouldn't have been able to score all those runs without them."

Freshman Claire Voris earned Rookie of the Year Honors with a 5-0 record on the mound. Voris struck out 46 batters including a school record tying 17 batters against Case. Voris also excelled offensively with a team best .583.

"We need to focus on playing our game and not let what the other team does affect how we play," said junior Lindsay Cavarra, a captain.

When the Bears are on top of their game, it is hard to stop them, as demonstrated throughout the UAA Tournament.

The Red and Green earned a slew of UAA awards after Wash. U. won their fifth consecutive title with a 7-1 record. The Bears swept the top honors as Head Coach Leticia Pineda-Boutte and Assistant Coaches Stacy Mui and Kris Caldwell were named Coaching Staff of the Year.

Senior Karli Stander was recognized as MVP of the Year, leading the UAA by scoring ten runs and stealing seven for seven bases in eight games.

"I owe it all to my teammates," said Stander. "I

The Bears dropped both games on Friday as No. 14 Wartburg broke tight games wide open with some clutch hitting. Wash. U. was unable to pull off the comebacks that they have been known



DAVID HARTSTEIN | STUDENT LIFE

Senior Karli Stander bats as her team looks on in a recent game against Wartburg College. Stander was named MVP of the UAA Championships.

for this year. "We were slow to make adjustments at the plate and it showed," said Cavarra. "But

we know what we need to improve on and that will help us the rest of the season."

Voris suffered her first career loss while senior Kaylyn Eash took the other loss on the mound.

Cavarra had the one bright spot of the doubleheader, knocking her first long ball out of the park this season in the first game. But Wartburg's five runs in the third inning of the first frame were too much to overcome.

"We need to focus on working as a team and getting hit

after hit," said Stander.

The team's doubleheader against Incarnate Word University scheduled for Thursday was canceled due to bad weather.

The Bears will remain at home for the St. Louis Invitational this weekend. Wash. U. takes on neighbor Fontbonne University at 10 a.m. and the College of St. Scholastica at noon on Saturday. The Red and Green cap the invitationals against Central College at noon and Maryville University at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

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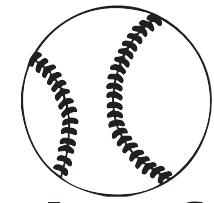
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## WANTED

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## Sudoku By The Mepham Group

9			1		3	8	4
1			7	6			
			9				
					7	3	6
3	4					1	7
6	2		1				
					4		
			7	5		9	
1	8	3		6		4	

Level: **1 2 3 4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

1	4	7	8	9	3	6	5	2
3	8	6	5	2	7	1	9	4
9	2	5	6	1	4	3	8	7
2	5	9	1	7	8	4	6	3
7	3	4	9	5	6	2	1	8
8	6	1	4	3	2	5	7	9
5	7	3	2	6	9	8	4	1
6	9	8	3	4	1	7	2	5
4	1	2	7	8	5	9	3	6

3/28/08

## Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Molecule part
- 5 Fracture
- 10 Bog
- 14 Nemesis
- 15 Salutation
- 16 Reverse an action
- 17 Ran in the wash
- 18 Indian or Arctic
- 19 Opera melody
- 20 overshadow, as the sun
- 22 Warded off, as in fencing
- 24 Recognition
- 26 Mythic giant
- 27 Chocolate source
- 30 Infuriate
- 32 Pittsburgh philanthropist
- 34 Corn serving
- 35 Company emblem
- 39 Gold in Toledo
- 40 Social blunder
- 43 Uncooked
- 44 NASA delay
- 46 Mineral spring
- 47 Spool for thread
- 49 Fabric stiffener
- 52 Leans to one side
- 53 Tragedy
- 56 Slanted type
- 58 Answers back
- 60 Female beetle?
- 64 Singer Redding
- 65 Inflexible
- 67 Smoke, as ham
- 68 Leslie Caron film
- 69 Join forces
- 70 Theater area
- 71 Why don't we?
- 72 Pealed, on Halloween
- 73 Looks over
- DOWN
- 1 French cleric
- 2 Locker room powder
- 3 Like Nash's Iama
- 4 Part of EMS
- 5 Picked
- 6 Slope backward
- 7 Stout cousin
- 8 Nonsense
- 9 Hawaiian coffee
- 10 Angry dispute
- 11 Remove bridles
- 12 Au revoir!
- 13 Prods
- 21 Conclusive evidence
- 23 Scott Joplin piece
- 25 Not strictly accurate
- 27 Let's go!
- 28 Dynamic start?
- 29 Become stopped up
- 31 Yemeni or Qatari
- 33 Shuttle org.
- 36 Peepers
- 37 Way of moving
- 38 Has title to
- 41 Insurrection
- 42 Unbroken
- 43 Learning by absorption

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3/28/08

## Solutions

L	E	T	S	E	G	G	E	D	E	Y	E
L	I	L	I	S	R	I	G	I	D	C	U
O	T	I	S	R	A	L	I	C	B	U	E
D	R	A	M	A	I	T	A	L	I	C	N
S	T	A	R	C	H	L	I	S	T	S	
N	O	G	O	F	A						

# SCENE



## AutoMotive

### Top 10 Special The best cars seen on campus

BY RICHARD OCKERS  
SCENE REPORTER

**Y**our friendly czar-of-the-car is back with another installment of AutoMotive. After years of watching the daily migration of cars around Wash. U., I have at last compiled the definitive list of my top 10 favorite cars I've seen on campus (excluding my own, of course). Read on to find out if your car made the list—there's a Grand Prize at the end, I promise.

**10] Washington University Police Department Cruiser: Chevrolet Malibu**

Nothing strikes more fear into the heart of a pot smoker or underage drinker than the swirling lights, shiny swivel spotlight and steel wheels of a WUPD Chevrolet Malibu. Earning a solid position at number 10 in my countdown, the cruiser comes standard with hardly anything but an engine and decals. However, what it lacks in creature comforts it makes up by giving the driver immediate authority.

**9] Jeep Grand Cherokee 5.9 Liter**

The typical Grand Cherokee can be found around campus, but this particular version is even rarer.

Granted, this SUV is a bit outdated and has a steroidal V-8 that guzzles enough gas to make an eco-weenie faint. But it is rough and rugged, and was at one point the fastest sport utility vehicle on the planet. It almost single-handedly created a new market segment for obnoxiously fast 5,000-pound SUVs. Absolutely bonkers, but I love it.

**8] Ford Mach 1 Mustang, Twin Turbo**

I am not as much of a fan of the older generation Mustang as I am the current one, but there are three particular aspects of this Mustang that I absolutely love: the wheels, the shaker hood and the aftermarket twin sequential turbos. In most cases, one turbo is awesome, but with this Mustang even the turbo has a turbo—and that's pretty wicked.

**7] Porsche Boxster S**

Now this car is not nearly as powerful as the Mustang or the Jeep, but it combines speed and agility in a beautiful package with excellent build quality and pedigree.

Furthermore, you can buy a good used one with highway miles for the price of a new Mazda Miata. I'm guessing these belong to professors, as they are most commonly parked in front of Brookings.

**6] BMW 335i**

The new BMW 3-series is one of the best cars ever made. It is comfortable, elegant, unsurpassed in build quality and fun to drive. Its engine represents BMW's first foray into passenger car turbocharging in decades. It has a twin-turbo inline six-cylinder engine that pumps out 300 horsepower and turns the 335i into a wolf in sheep's clothing.

**5] Audi RS4**

The coolest thing about the RS4, besides the Recaro seats, the 4.2L 414 hp V-8, the brakes from a Lamborghini and Quattro all-wheel-drive, is the fact that it has four doors. Not only can it shred tires with the best of them on the track, but it can bring along a friend, a cooler and a couple of chairs. The all-wheel-drive also helps it in the snow. What more could you ask for than a rip-snorting beast with a touch of practicality?

**4] BMW E46 M3**

So I know BMW is on this list twice, but let's face it, they make incredible cars. Furthermore, you can buy a good used one with highway miles for the price of a new Mazda Miata. I'm guessing these belong to professors, as they are most commonly parked in front of Brookings.

dling cars in the world. It's a seriously capable car with 0-60 acceleration times on par with a Ferrari F355. That alone earns it a spot on my list.

**3] Acura NSX**

The NSX has been Japan's only real claim to fame in the supercar segment for over a decade. It has a mid-engine platform with a V-6 that revs freely enough to make your hamster jealous. Furthermore, it looks absolutely stunning, particularly with a clean set of aftermarket wheels. Better yet, it's made by Honda, which means you can drive it until you're 146 years old. Beat that.

**2] Chrysler New Yorker**

Just kidding... but really, it does have maroon paint, recliners for seats and a vertical rear windshield. That's gotta count for something, right?

Readers and skimmers, without further ado...my number one favorite car on campus is:

**1] The Maserati Quattroporte**

(Yes, I've seen it on campus.) The Maserati embodies everything that makes a car great. Its Pininfarina-designed body is as sexy as a Playboy pinup, its Ferrari-built 400 hp V-8 propels it

to 60 mph only slightly slower than an M3, and its passengers wear the fine leather interior like a pair of Italian loafers. The fact that it is incredibly capable despite being as large as a Mercedes S-Class or 7-series BMW is impressive and surely deserving of the number



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## Stepping Out

**Roxane**  
12 N. Meramec  
314-721-7700  
Price Range: \$10-15

Rating: ★★★★☆

BY KATE GALLAGHER  
SCENE REPORTER

**R**oxane is a hip, stylish European-inspired restaurant located in Clayton. Roxane's restaurateur is also the owner of Mira, BARcelona and Cyrano's. The food at Roxane was phenomenal—cooked to perfection with flavors that skillfully complemented each other. I could imagine the chef in the kitchen crafting the dishes as if he were competing on Top Chef. Though the food looked and tasted fancy, the prices were relatively reasonable and the atmosphere felt informal. The waitresses were helpful, gladly offering a variety of suggestions and asking how we liked the food (enough to be polite but not so much that it got annoying). Roxane was romantic, intimate and exciting enough for a date, but also cool enough for a night out with friends. In fact, it looks like Roxane would even be a good place to go alone. On a Monday night, there were a few people dining by themselves, and they appeared to be enjoying the atmosphere and food as well.

The cute wine bar was hop-

ping with 20-somethings on St. Patrick's Day. It looked like the perfect place to go with friends for a few drinks. The entryway opens into a dining room with multi-colored tables, and a large mirror and window helped to make the room feel spacious and comfortable. Fun polka-dot lanterns and paintings hung from the lavender-colored walls. An enjoyable mix of soft modern music played in the background. The perfectly dimmed lights and a single candle at each table provided a pleasant ambience. All in all, the restaurant had a relaxed, classy urban feel.

Roxane has an extensive menu, offering shared plates, soups, salads, entrées and desserts. My friends and I decided to try a variety of the options. First we tried the portabella mushroom stuffed with goat cheese and vegetables. It was presented beautifully on a large, clean white plate drizzled with an orange marsala sauce, with freshly cooked zucchini, caramelized onions and generous crumbles of goat cheese. The dish fused sweet, tangy and savory flavors by combining the rich cheese with the sweet sauce and the fresh, tasty

vegetables.

I ordered a chicken entrée, which proved equally delicious. The chicken was encrusted with a crunchy, buttery pretzel topping and was drizzled with spicy mustard. My only complaint would be that it was a little on the dry side.

All entrées at Roxane come with a side, so I opted to try the grilled asparagus. Asparagus can be difficult to perfect, but this one came pretty close. It was neither overcooked nor burnt, but rather blackened with a few grill marks and artfully garnished with shredded carrot. I found it to be a bit too crunchy for my taste, but my friends said that it was cooked just right.

We also tried the chips with queso blanco dip, a mild creamy delight that anyone would enjoy. An especially fun food that we tried was the bistro fries. These were served in a big white paper cone and were lightly spiced, salted and served with garlic aioli sauce. The sauce ended up tasting more like mayonnaise than garlic, but the fries themselves were so delicious that they didn't really need sauce anyway. While there were plenty of fries to go around, another "shared plate" that we ordered appeared to be too small to really share. This was the surf and turf, a very small portion of shrimp and steak served on skewers.

Roxane's hours are quite convenient for the late-to-bed, late-to-rise Wash. U. student. They're open from 11 a.m. until 1:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, Roxane is open from 5 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. Check out Roxane if you're in the mood for a fun, classy and delectable evening—with blowing your budget.



KATE GALLAGHER | STUDENT LIFE

The bar at Roxane is a perfect place to go for a few drinks with friends.

## Romance 101

Some thoughts on first dates

BY NICOLLE NEULIST  
SCENE REPORTER

but always have someone else there in case things go wrong or conversation stalls.

If you are accepting a lot of first dates, make sure that you're doing it safely. When you try going out with someone you met on the Internet or someone you don't know very well, make sure you start your date somewhere open and public so you can comfortably control the alone time. Let your instincts be your guide. If you don't feel comfortable around your date, and there's something about them that makes you feel jumpy or unsafe, don't hesitate to end the date early and stop seeing that person. Not having to wonder "what might have been" is a good goal, but nothing good will happen by continuing to date someone who makes you feel like you have to keep your guard up.

Others almost never accept a first date, and the reasons for that vary just as widely. They might intentionally stay single. They may be shy or uncomfortable with the thought of spending time alone with new people. They might just be incredibly picky.

Neither of these extreme dating styles will work well for every person. So how do you strike a balance between the two? There are a few considerations everyone can use to ensure that they're being choosy enough, but not so choosy that it unreasonably impedes the possibility of a fulfilling dating life.

If you are not accepting a lot of first dates from new people, but you're interested in dating, push the limits of your comfort zone a bit. Shyness, of course, cannot be overcome in a day.

But, if somebody intriguing asks you out, consider accepting and doing a fairly low-pressure activity in a setting where you feel comfortable; see an early movie, go to a concert. Those events don't require a lot of conversation, but will provide an experience for you both to talk about afterward.

If you're still a little wary about going out alone with someone you don't know well, go out on a double date or invite them to join you in a group. That way, you can get to know the new person a little better,

Another thing to keep in mind no matter your dating style is physical attraction. It has been in vogue for a while to discount the role of physical attraction in the success of a relationship. Other factors like trust, intelligence, wit and common interests are all necessary in starting and keeping up a good relationship; we all know that. But don't downplay the role of physical attraction out of fear of sounding shallow.

A relationship of this nature involves some physical component. Be it hand-holding, kissing or sex, there is physical contact. So no matter how nice someone may be, don't accept a date if you aren't the least bit physically attracted to that person. You may think you're doing it to be nice, but you're setting everyone up for disappointment. They'll feel led on, and you'll eventually face the awkwardness of ending it.

Dating should be fun and first dates are a great way to get to know new people and see if you hit it off.

Once you find your personal balance of adventure and caution, you'll have a great time.